

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 689

By Faulk

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Connie Hall Givens of Rogersville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Connie Hall Givens, a loving wife, mother, grandmother, a pioneer for Coordinated School Health, and a champion for the children of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Connie Givens was an exemplary public servant and consummate health care professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for Tennessee's children in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Givens excelled in many leadership positions during her thirty-six years of working to improve the health of school children across the state of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, she advocated for the creation of Coordinated School Health (CSH) in Tennessee, and her efforts resulted in ten successful pilot sites for CSH; and

WHEREAS, the success of these projects led to the 2006 statewide expansion of Coordinated School Health, as Tennessee became the first state in the nation to provide funding to all school districts to implement the Allensworth/Kolbe Model for Coordinated School Health with a \$15 million appropriation; and

WHEREAS, Connie Givens served with distinction as the first Executive Director of the Office of Coordinated School Health for the Tennessee Department of Education from 2001 until her passing; and

WHEREAS, she demonstrated her compassion, integrity, and expertise for twenty-seven years as the Director of Health Services for Hawkins County Schools; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of the American Cancer Society's National School Health Coordinator's Leadership Institute, Mrs. Givens was Tennessee's representative to the Mid-South Alliance for School Health, and she had previously served as president of the Tennessee

Association of School Nurses, a member of the Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth, and as a board member for the Rural Health Association of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, a lady wholly dedicated to ensuring the good health of Tennessee's children, Connie Givens served on local and state task forces and health councils too numerous to mention and she had been honored as the only non-physician recipient of the John S. Derryberry Award for Distinguished Service by the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians; and

WHEREAS, as evidence of her great positive impact on school health, the Tennessee Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance (TAHPERD) established the Connie Hall Givens Award in 2007 to recognize a school district and/or individual who promotes exemplary physical education, physical activity, and health programs as part of Coordinated School Health; and

WHEREAS, Connie Hall Givens is survived by her husband, Ken Givens, a former member of the House of Representatives of this General Assembly who presently serves as Tennessee's Commissioner of Agriculture; a son, Brian Givens, and his wife, Jamie; two daughters, Kellie Givens and Amy Givens; and the pride of her life, granddaughter Zoë Alexis Givens; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable lady also leaves behind her mother, Wanda Jarvis Thomas; her brothers, Ronnie Hall, Michael Hall, and David Hall; and her sister, Donna Hall Mallory; and

WHEREAS, she was preceded in death by her father Harry Lyle Hall, and her very special grandparents, Burley and Evelyn Hall and Lena Jarvis; and

WHEREAS, Connie Hall Givens leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we mourn the passing and honor the memory of Connie Hall Givens,

reflecting fondly upon her enduring legacy in Coordinated School Health and her stalwart dedication to Tennessee's children and their well being.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Connie Hall Givens.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.